



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

George Washington
Carver National Monument

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George Washington Carver NM News Release

For Immediate Release

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Holiday Open House at George Washington Carver National Monument

George Washington Carver National Monument would like to invite the public to its Holiday Open House. This **FREE** event will take place Saturday December 12th from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Special activities are scheduled; including music, crafts, and an appearance by Dr. Carver himself!

Music includes the Ozark Wilderness Dulcimer Club. This group will perform using stringed instruments such as hammer dulcimers, mountain dulcimers, banjos and guitars. Other performers include the husband and wife duo, Brown's Mountain Music. We are also pleased to have with us the amazing sound of the Diamond Bell Choir. These local musicians, among others, will be playing their favorite holiday arrangements.

The open house will also include a special visit with Dr. George Washington Carver as portrayed by Paxton J. Williams, Outreach Director for the George Washington Carver Birthplace Association. Dr. Carver will delight visitors by sharing stories of traditions of holidays past.

Crafts will include the making of Pomanders and Thaumatrope, both handmade holiday crafts dating back to the 1800's. Families and neighbors would often spend time together decorating their homes with Pomanders, which involved wrapping ribbon around a piece of citrus and covering it with cloves. Pomanders can be used as ornaments on trees, or just placed in a room with their beautiful aroma filling the air. Thaumatrope were also popular, especially with children. A Thaumatrope is two images glued back to back and on a string. Once the string is turned, as fast as possible, the two images become one.

Join the National Park Service for this intriguing holiday program. For more information please call the park at 417-325-4151 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. or visit the park website at www.nps.gov/gwca.

George Washington Carver National Monument preserves the birthplace and childhood home of George Washington Carver. The park is located two miles west of Diamond, Missouri on Hwy V, then south ½ mile on Carver Road. Visiting hours are daily from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.